



## **Dallas County Awards 4-H Guidelines**

4-H members are recognized for their accomplishments during the year at the annual Dallas County 4-H Awards Ceremony. The awards ceremony is held on the second Saturday of August.

4-H members who could participate in 4-H activities beyond their club level gain the confidence and skill set to compete for county level awards. County-level awards recognize the work and accomplishments of 4-H members who have challenged themselves by becoming active at the county, district, and state levels. The Dallas County 4-H office provides the guidelines and oversees the selection for these awards.

**Award interviews:** **ONLY FOR 2023** applications; there WILL NOT be interview required for these awards. Application only.

### **Awards and Eligibility Requirements:**

- 🍀 Be a 4-H member enrolled in the current 4-H program year.
- 🍀 All Requirements must be met to be considered for each award.

### **Dallas County 4-H Rookie of the Year**

All First (1<sup>st</sup>) year new members of 4-H are eligible to apply. This award is intended for youth new to the 4-H experience at any grade level (except Clover Kids).

- A. Awarded to **ANY FIRST YEAR Dallas 4-H member**. Not for Clover Kids.
- B. Must have completed projects in at least one (1) project area.
- C. Must have participated in one (1) or more Community Service activities.
- D. Must have given one (1) demonstration, presentation, or prepared an exhibit.
- E. Must have Participated in at least one (1) county, district, or state contest or activity.

**Awards:** Each year, Dallas County 4-H can select as many members as possible who meet the criteria. This award may be received only once in their 4-H career.

### **Dallas County 4-H Bronze Star Award**

All 4-H members with one (1) to three (3) years in Dallas County 4-H are eligible for this award.

- A. Must have submitted a Record Book for county contest.
- B. Must have completed at least two (2) projects areas.
- C. Must have participated in one (1) or more community service activities.
- D. Must have participated in at least one (1) contest (County, district, and/or state levels).
- E. Must have given one (1) demonstration, presentation or prepare an exhibit (any level)

**Awards:** Each year, Dallas County 4-H can select as many members as possible who meet the criteria. This award may be received only once in their 4-H career.

### **Dallas County 4-H Silver Star Award**

All 4-H members with two (2) or more years in 4-H are eligible to receive this award.

- A. Must have completed and submitted a Record Book for county contest.
- B. Must have completed three (3) different project areas.
- C. Must have participated in one (1) or more community service activities.
- D. Must have participated in at least one (1) contest (County, district, and/or state level).
- E. Must have given at least one demonstration, presentation, or prepared an exhibit (any level).
- F. Served in a leadership role such as: 4-H officer, committee chairperson, and/or youth project leader.

**Awards:** Each year, Dallas County 4-H can select as many members as possible who meet the criteria. This award may be received only once in their 4-H career.

### **Dallas County Rising Star Award**

All Intermediate 4-H members in the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades who and must have completed at least two (2) years in Dallas County 4-H. This award may be received only once in their 4-H career.

- A. Must have completed and submitted a Record Book for county contest.
- B. Must have gone above and beyond in their 4-H Project activities (showing example of leadership, project growth, and 4-H promotion).
- C. Must have completed three (3) or more project areas.
- D. Must have participated in one (1) or more Community Service Activities.
- E. Must have participated in at least one (1) contest (County, district and/or state level).
- F. Must have given at least one (1) demonstration, presentation, or prepare an exhibit (any level).
- G. Must have served in a leadership role (4-H officer, committee chairperson).
- H. Must have participated in an activity to promote 4-H (Fundraising, community event, etc.).
- I. Must have attended two (2) or more county events.

### **Dallas County Senior Star Award**

All Senior 4-H members in the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades are eligible to receive this award. All requirements may be completed in one year OR within the time that a member is a senior. Members may begin work on the Senior Star Requirements as soon as they reach the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Requirements completed while you are a Junior/Intermediate DO NOT COUNT.

- A. Must have completed and submitted a Record Book for county contest.
- B. Must have gone above and beyond in their 4-H project activities (showing examples of leadership, project growth and 4-H promotion).
- C. Must have completed three (3) different project areas.
- D. Must have participated in one (1) or more Community Service Activities.



- E. Most have participated in at least one (1) contest (County, district and/or state level).
- F. Most have given at least one (1) demonstration, presentation, or prepared an exhibit (any level).
- G. Must have served in a leadership role (4-H officer, committee chairperson, and/or youth project leader, any level).
- H. Must have participated in at least one (1) leadership activity (Youth leadership group, leadership training, leadership ULTRA lab, etc.)
- I. Must have participated in an activity to promote 4-H (Fundraising, community event, etc.).
- J. Must have attended two (2) or more county events.
- K. Must have assisted with a county-wide event.
- L. Explore career opportunities.

### **Gold Star Award**

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/awards/>

#### **Introduction and History of the Gold Star Award**

The Gold Star Award is the highest achievement award given by the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program through the county 4-H Program. The Texas 4-H Gold Star Award can only be awarded once in a member's 4-H career.

The presentation of the Gold Star Pin Began in 1933, the first year Mr. E. Martin was boys 4-H Club Specialist. Mr. Martin tells us the pin was prompted by an effort to recognize the people who did the work rather than the agents. Previous to this time, the agents submitting the largest number of 4-H records received recognition.

Records in the Extension Fiscal Office indicates that the first Gold Star Pins were purchased in 1933. For the first several years the Gold Star Pins were presented at a dinner during Short Course at College Station. In the beginning each county made a nomination of their outstanding 4-H member and 100 members were selected to receive the award. After several years, the awards were presented to the outstanding 4-H boy and 4-H girl in each county.

#### **Requirements for the Texas 4-H Gold Star**

As the highest award given by the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program, County Offices and Agents are asked to maintain a high level of integrity and honor through their selection process of county Gold Star Recipients. At the MINIMUM, the following guidelines should be used in the eligibility and selection process for each county:

- The member must have at least completed or be completing their 9<sup>th</sup> grade school year at the time of application and must have completed at least three (3) years in 4-H, including the current year.
- The Texas 4-H Gold Star Award can only be awarded once in a member's 4-H career.



- The 4-H member must have completed projects in at least three different project areas, submitted appropriate record forms, and have participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:
  - ✓ Projects and /or Project Exhibits
  - ✓ Participation in Leadership Experiences such as Leadership Labs, Texas 4-H Congress, or National 4-H Congress/Conference, and any county, district, or state leadership group.
  - ✓ Competitive Events (judging, educational presentation, public speaking, food show, quiz bowls, etc.)
  - ✓ Citizenship activities
  - ✓ Camps at the county, district, or state level
  - ✓ 4-H Promotion (speeches, poster displays, radio, TV, newspapers)
  - ✓ Other (includes exchange programs, fund raising)

Note: The requirements for projects and activities do not all have to be completed in the current year. They may have been accomplished over the entire time the person has been in the program.

- The member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as a 4-H officer or committee chair (club, county, district, or state), and/or as a junior or teen leader in an activity or project with or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader.
- The 4-H member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as a 4-H officer or committee chair (club, county, district, or state), and/ or as a junior or teen leader in an activity or project with or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader.
- The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities. Examples include providing leadership to a One Day 4-H project, working with or counseling junior 4-H members, participating in community service projects (individual, group or club), and motivating other 4-H members through participation in demonstrations, projects and/or exhibits.
- The 4-H member **MUST SUBMIT A TEXAS 4-H RECORDBOOK** in the year they are to be considered for the award.

### **Lone Star Ag Credit Leadership Award**

Each year Dallas County can select one 4-H member to be recognized for this award, which is at the discretion of Lone Star Ag Credit and Dallas County Agent(s). This award may be received only once in their 4-H career.

4-H member must have completed their freshman year in high school, show exemplary qualities as a leader in 4-H and the community, and have completed at least two years in 4-H including the current year.

The Lone Star Ag Credit Leadership Award recognizes 4-H members for their dedication to “making the best better”. Award recipients are chosen on their ability to grow clubs, leader project groups, and coordinate events in the community.



## **Eligibility Criteria**

- Submit a Record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the awards.
- The 4-H member must have showcased how they were able to lead 4-H activities to strengthen their local club or develop new ways of delivering 4-H in the community.
- During his or her years in 4-H, the member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as a 4-H officer or committee chairman (club, county, district or state), and /or as a junior or teen leader in an activity or project with or under the supervision of an adult volunteer.
- The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities.
- The 4-H member must have participated in at least one contest either at the county, district or state level in the year he or she is to be considered for the award.

Awards: Each year Dallas County can select up to two (2) 4-H members to be recognized for this award, which is at the discretion of Lone Star Ag Credit. \*If funding was secure, the award might have attached a CASH \$\$ value.

## **Congressional Award**

**(External Application).**

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress's award for young Americans. The program is non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive. Young people may register when they turn 13 1/2 years old and must complete their activities by their 24th birthday.

Participants earn Bronze, Silver, and Gold Congressional Award Certificates and Bronze, Silver, and Gold Congressional Award Medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas: Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration. Earning this award is a fun and interesting way to get more involved in something you already enjoy or something you'd like to try for the first time. You move at your own pace – on your own or with your friends. This is not an award for past accomplishments. Instead, you are honored for achieving your own challenging goals after registering for the program.

More information can be obtained at <https://www.congressionalaward.org/>



## Dallas County 4-H Award Application

A Picture MUST BE ATTACHED WITH THIS APPLICATION. Please send a picture with application to  
[elver.pardo@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:elver.pardo@ag.tamu.edu)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian names: \_\_\_\_\_

Division (Jr./Int./Sr.): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (as of September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of 4-H Club/Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years in 4-H: \_\_\_\_\_

Record Book submitted in 2023 was in \_\_\_\_\_ (Category).

\*\*Check the appropriate box for the award(s) you are applying for:

☐ *Rookie of the Year*

☐ *Bronze Star*

☐ *Silver Star*

☐ *Rising Star*

☐ *Senior Star*

☐ *Gold Star*

☐ *Long Star Ag Credit Leadership*

- ☉ List 4-H projects you have completed over 4-H career and indicate number of years in each project:

- ☉ What do you consider your most outstanding 4-H project and why:

- ☉ List the activities in which you have participated such as: method demonstrations, judging contest, camps, leadership labs. district, state national activities you have attended in 4-H career:



- ➊ Please list your most outstanding leadership experiences—club, county, district, state offices held, and committee work in your 4-H career; write how this experience has contributed to your leadership development.
- ➋ List one or more community service activities in which you participated in the past year, write how you contributed to your community with these activities:
- ➌ List major 4-H honors AND Non-4-H honors and recognition previously received:
- ➍ What have you learned from 4-H this year? (50 words or less):
- ➎ Please describe the funniest/most unusual experience in connection with a project in your 4-H career:

### 4-H Member Signature

Date

### 4-H Parent Signature

**Date**